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June 24, 1977

JFK ACT 4/1/99 RELEASE

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR RELEASE OF THIS DOCUMENT
7/14/97

[redacted] Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Turner:

The Select Committee on Assassinations of the United States House of Representatives which is investigating the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., has requested Department of Justice files regarding Antulio Ortiz Ramirez.

By way of background, on May 1, 1961, Ramirez hijacked a National Airlines plane over Marathon, Florida, and forced the pilot to fly to Cuba. Subsequently, the plane and its passengers returned to the United States but Ramirez remained in Cuba. On June 28, 1961, a Federal grand jury at Miami, Florida, returned an indictment charging Ramirez with assault, transporting a kidnapped person and transportation of a stolen vehicle, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§113, 1201, and 2312. Ramirez was apprehended on November 21, 1975, at Miami International Airport upon his arrival from Kingston, Jamaica and admitted guilt regarding the 1961 hijacking. He subsequently pleaded guilty on March 4, 1976, and was sentenced to 20 years for kidnapping.

We are prepared to allow the Select Committee on Assassinations access to departmental files regarding Ramirez and will declassify several classified documents contained therein in order to allow all Committee members access to the requested files. However, the files proposed for release contain a report by Special Agent Theodore N. Goble of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, dated July 28, 1961, captioned "Antulio Ramirez Ortiz, Internal Security-Cuba," and classified "Secret." Inasmuch as the document

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in question contains classified information regarding the Central Intelligence Agency would you please advise if said information warrants continued classification.

If you have any questions I can be reached at the Department of Justice at (202) 739-2333.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Keuch

ROBERT L. KEUCH
Special Counsel to the
Attorney General